

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. In a decorative structure including at least two suspended elements, a

support assembly comprising the following:

5 a support tube having a hollow interior and opposed end portions;
a pair of securing elements, each of the securing elements being located on
a respective end portion of the support tube; and
a flexible, elongate support element secured to the respective end portions of
the support tube by the securing elements, the elongate support element having two
ends, each of the ends being adapted for attachment to a suspended element of the
decorative structure.

10 2. A support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the securing
elements comprise adjustment clips adapted to fit over the end portions of the
support tube.

15 3. A support assembly according to claim 2, wherein the support tube
comprises a hollow cylindrical tube.

4. A support assembly according to claim 3, wherein the adjustment clips
comprise annular cylindrical members having an inner diameter approximately equal
to an outer diameter of the support tube.

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5. A support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the elongate support element is selected from a group comprising string and monofilament.

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6. A support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the securing elements comprise slits in the end portions of the support tube.

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7. A support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the support tube is fabricated from a transparent material.

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8. A support assembly according to claim *7*, wherein the adjustment clips are fabricated from a transparent material.

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9. A support assembly according to claim 1, wherein the support tube is substantially arcuate.

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10. In a decorative mobile including at least two suspended elements, a support assembly comprising the following:

a main support tube having a hollow interior and opposed end portions;

a pair of main securing elements, each of the main securing elements being located on a respective end portion of the main support tube;

a pair of secondary support tubes, each having a hollow interior and opposed end portions;

two pairs of secondary securing elements, each pair of the secondary securing elements being located on respective end portions of the secondary support tubes;

a main flexible, elongate support element secured to the respective end portions of the main support tube by the main securing elements, the main elongate support element having two ends, each of the ends being adapted for attachment to one of the secondary support tubes; and

a pair of secondary flexible, elongate support elements, the respective secondary elements being secured to the respective end portions of the secondary support tubes by the secondary securing elements, each of the secondary elongate support element having two ends, each of the ends being adapted for attachment to a suspended element of the decorative structure.

11. A support assembly according to claim 10, wherein the main and secondary support elements comprise selectively removable adjustment clips adapted to fit over the end portions of the respective main and secondary support tubes.

5 12. A support assembly according to claim 11, wherein the main and secondary support tubes comprise hollow cylindrical tubes.

10 13. A support assembly according to claim 12, wherein the main and secondary adjustment clips comprise annular cylindrical members having an inner diameter approximately equal to outer diameters of the main and secondary support tubes.

14. A support assembly according to claim 10, wherein the main and secondary elongate support elements are selected from a group comprising string and monofilament.

15 15. A support assembly according to claim 10, wherein the main and secondary securing elements comprise slits in the end portions of the respective main and secondary support tubes.

16. A support assembly according to claim 10, wherein the main and

~~secondary support tubes are fabricated from a transparent material.~~

17. A support assembly according to claim 10, wherein the main and
~~secondary support tubes are substantially arcuate.~~

~~18.~~ In a decorative structure including at least two suspended elements, a
method of securing suspended elements to a support assembly, the method
comprising the following steps:

providing a support tube having a hollow interior and opposed end portions;

providing a pair of securing elements located on respective end portions of
the support tube;

providing a flexible, elongate support element secured to the respective end
portions of the support tube by the securing elements, the elongate support element
having two ends, each of the ends being adapted for attachment to ^{the} ~~a~~ suspended
element of the decorative structure;

threading the elongate support element through the support tube;

attaching ^{the} ~~a~~ suspended element to each of the ends of the
elongate support element; and

placing the support element in interlocking relation with the securing
elements on the end portions of the support tube.

10 19. A method according to claim 18, wherein the step of placing the support element in interlocking relation comprises placing selectively removable adjustment clips over the end portions of the support tube.

11 20. A method according to claim 18, wherein the step of placing the support element in interlocking relation comprises placing the support element into slits in the end portions of the support tube.